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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995*

PART II. POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Section 3. *Political affairs*

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* The present document contains section 3 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/48/6/Rev.1).

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PART II

POLITICAL AFFAIRS

SECTION 3. POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Overview

TABLE 3.1. SUMMARY OF 1994-1995 ESTIMATES BY PROGRAMME

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) Regular budget

	1992-1993 revised appropriation	*Biennialized base*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1994-1995 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
A. Policy-making organs	3 229.2	4 135.9	(68.8)	(1.6)	4 067.1	291.2	4 358.3
B. Department of Political Affairs I	23 295.0	30 989.5	3 660.9	11.8	34 650.4	3 587.2	38 237.6
C. Department of Political Affairs II	14 880.6	20 680.3	2 712.0	13.1	23 392.3	2 830.9	26 223.2
E. Outer space affairs	2 362.1	3 426.2	284.7	8.3	3 710.9	340.5	4 051.4
Total, regular budget	**43 766.9**	**59 231.9**	**6 588.8**	**11.1**	**65 820.7**	**7 049.8**	**72 870.5**

TABLE 3.1 (continued)

(2) Extrabudgetary resources

1992-1993 estimated expenditures		*Source of funds*	*1994-1995 estimated expenditures*
		(a) Services in support of:	
-		(i) Other United Nations organizations	-
120.0		(ii) Extrabudgetary programmes	570.0
Total *(a)*	**120.0**		**570.0**
		(b) Substantive activities	
		Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament	
1 475.0		Information Programme	1 565.0
210.0		Trust Fund for Public Awareness on Disarmament Issues	225.0
1 100.0		Trust Fund for Global and Regional Disarmament Activities	700.0
		Trust Fund for Interest on the Contribution to	
500.0		the United Nations Special Account	850.0
300.0		United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Observation	300.0
250.0		Trust Fund for Publicity against Apartheid	250.0
		Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space	
85.0		Applications	115.0
Total *(b)*	**3 920.0**		**4 005.0**
		(c) Operational projects	
		Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre	
510.0		for Peace and Disarmament in Africa	500.0
		Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America	
245.0		and the Caribbean	200.0
		Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for	
405.0		Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific	400.0
		Trust Fund for the United Nations Institute for	
2 000.0		Disarmament Research	2 130.0
7 000.0		United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa	7 000.0
		United Nations Educational and Training Programme	
9 000.0		for Southern Africa	10 000.0
1 725.0		United Nations Fund for Namibia	255.0
Total *(c)*	**20 885.0**		**20 485.0**
Total *(a)*, *(b)* and *(c)*	**24 925.0**		**25 060.0**
		Total costs	**97 930.5**

TABLE 3.2. SUMMARY OF 1994-1995 ESTIMATES BY OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	*1992-1993 revised appropriation*	*Biennialized base*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*1994-1995 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Staff costs	35 479.1	47 591.6	4 314.1	9.0	51 905.7	6 074.9	57 980.6
Consultants and experts	904.5	1 516.8	307.1	20.2	1 823.9	134.1	1 958.0
Travel on official business	2 806.2	4 027.4	20.0	0.4	4 047.4	304.8	4 352.2
Contractual services	1 061.7	1 155.6	(102.9)	(8.9)	1 052.7	79.9	1 132.6
General operating expenses	715.6	924.8	695.5	75.2	1 620.3	111.2	1 731.5
Supplies and materials	133.5	162.1	36.6	22.5	198.7	16.4	215.1
Furniture and equipment	354.7	319.7	1 228.4	384.2	1 548.1	92.3	1 640.4
Fellowships, grants, contributions	2 311.6	3 533.9	90.0	2.5	3 623.9	236.2	3 860.1
Total	**43 766.9**	**59 231.9**	**6 588.8**	**11.1**	**65 820.7**	**7 049.8**	**72 870.5**

TABLE 3.3. POST REQUIREMENTS

Organizational unit: Department of Political Affairs

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1992-1993	*1994-1995*	*1992-1993*	*1994-1995*	*1992-1993*	*1994-1995*	*1992-1993*	*1994-1995*
Professional category and above								
USG	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	2
ASG	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
D-2	9	13	-	-	-	-	9	13
D-1	25	23	1	1	-	-	26	24
P-5	35	44	3	3	-	-	38	47
P-4	45	46	2	1	-	-	47	47
P-3	32	34	2	1	-	-	34	35
P-2/1	15	17	-	-	-	-	15	17
Total	**164**	**180**	**8**	**6**	**-**	**-**	**172**	**186**
General Service category								
Principal level	9	12	-	-	-	-	9	12
Other levels	105	118	9	10	-	-	114	128
Total	**114**	**130**	**9**	**10**	**-**	**-**	**123**	**140**
Other categories								
Local level	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	4
Total	**-**	**-**	**-**	**4**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**4**
Grand total	**278**	**310**	**17**	**20**	**-**	**-**	**295**	**330**

Introduction

3.1 The activities carried out under the present section of the budget relate to the implementation of the following programmes of major programme I, Maintenance of peace and security, disarmament and decolonization, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session (A/47/6/Rev.1): programme 1, Good offices, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping, research and the collection and analysis of information; programme 2, Political and Security Council affairs; programme 3, General Assembly affairs; programme 4, Special political questions, trusteeship and decolonization; programme 5, Question of Palestine; programme 6, Elimination of apartheid; programme 7, Disarmament; and programme 8, Peaceful uses of outer space.

3.2 In response to the suggestion of Member States that the Organization should develop an enhanced capacity for preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping, the Secretary-General, in his note of 21 February 1992 on the restructuring of the Secretariat (A/46/882), stated, *inter alia*, that he had decided to establish the Department of Political Affairs, headed by two Under-Secretaries-General with clearly defined geographical responsibilities and functions. The Department incorporates most and in some cases all of the activities of the following former departments and offices: Office of Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services; Office for Research and the Collection of Information; Department of Political and Security Council Affairs; Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship, and the Department for Disarmament Affairs. As regards activities related to the peaceful uses of outer space, the Office for Outer Space Affairs now reports to the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna.

3.3 Responsibility for the substantive servicing of the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council, the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Special Committee against Apartheid and its susidiary bodies, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Conference on Disarmament rests with the Department of Political Affairs. Servicint of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is the responsibility of the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

3.4 Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations gives, as the first purpose of the United Nations, the maintenance of international peace and security. The functions and powers of the Security Council are, in that connection, set out in Chapter V.

3.5 Under the international trusteeship system provided for in Chapters XII and XIII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization assumed supervisory responsibilities with regard to the administration of 11 dependent territories, known as Trust Territories, which had been placed under trusteeship by individual agreements. Of the 11 territories originally placed under the international system, 10 have become independent States or parts of independent States. Within the last Trust Territory, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, only Palau remains under the trusteeship system.

3.6 The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1472 (XIV) of 12 December 1959 to review international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and to study practical and feasible means for giving effect to related programmes that could appropriately be undertaken under United Nations auspices and to study legal problems that might arise from the exploration of outer space.

3.7 In its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961, respectively, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and established the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The programme of work of the Special Committee is decided upon on an annual basis, taking into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly. The mandates of programme 4 are therefore further elaborated in a number of resolutions with regard to specific territories or special questions of a political nature, which are adopted on an annual and biennial basis. In addition, activities under programme 4 entail cooperation with regional and interregional organizations, which are called for under annual resolutions of the General Assembly.

3.8 It is anticipated that the Special Committee will continue in 1994-1995 to study existing conditions in each of the remaining 18 Non-Self-Governing Territories, through visiting missions to the Territories, the holding of consultations on the question of decolonization, participation in conferences, seminars and other special events dealing with decolonization, and making arrangements, in consultation with the administering Powers and the regional organizations concerned, for the appearance before the Special Committee of representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

3.9 The activities programmed under this section of the budget, which fall under programme 6, Elimination of apartheid, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised, are carried out by the Centre against Apartheid within the framework of the programmes of work of the Special Committee against Apartheid and its subsidiary bodies, which are reviewed and approved by the General Assembly annually.

3.10 The Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixteenth special session in resolution S-16/1 of 14 December 1989, the thrust of which is the promotion of the peaceful settlement of the conflict in South Africa through genuine negotiations, marked the first broad-ranging and substantive consensus on the political situation in South Africa in the history of the Organization. The Declaration provided guidelines for the future activities of the Special Committee and the Centre against Apartheid. Further guidance has been provided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 46/79 A and B of 13 December 1991 and resolutions 47/116 A and 47/116 B of 18 December 1992, which were adopted by consensus. It is particularly noteworthy that resolution 47/116 B was the first resolution concerning the work of the Special Committee against Apartheid that was adopted by consensus reflecting a qualitative change both in the work of the Special Committee and how its role is assessed.

3.11 The main objective of the work of the Special Committee and the Centre against Apartheid for the biennium 1994-1995 is to encourage and facilitate the elimination of apartheid through a speedy, peaceful and stable transformation of South Africa into a non-racial and democratic State. Taking into consideration the ongoing process of negotiations and the latest developments in South Africa, it is realistic to hope that by 1994 agreements would have been reached on transitional arrangements that would allow for elections to a constituent assembly and the establishment of an interim government of national unity. The biennium 1994-1995 is anticipated to be a constitution-making period leading to a new South Africa: it is likely to be the most crucial and complex in the country's history since 1948 and also a phase of changing power structures in an emerging non-racial order.

3.12 In respect of the time-frame for functions and activities mandated to be carried out, political guidance and support for programme 6 can be found in the statement of the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid to the General Assembly on 15 December 1992, in which he stated, *inter alia*, stated that the Special Committee would not perpetuate itself in office after the discharge of its mandate. The mandate of the Committee would be considered ended when a new, non-racial and democratic constitution was in place in South Africa and free and fair elections had been conducted on that basis. That had been the common goal of the Committee throughout the years of struggle and it continued to be its goal.

3.13 In addition to monitoring and promoting the principles and the programme of action contained in the Declaration on Apartheid and in support of programme 6, the activities under the programme will continue to include educational, humanitarian, legal and other programmes for disadvantaged South Africans, as well as the coordination of United Nations system-wide activities related to apartheid and stepped-up programmes for the promotion of a culture of political tolerance and human rights.

3.14 In its most recent report (A/47/35), the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, whose basic mandate, as set out in General Assembly resolution 3376 (XXX) of 22 November 1974, is to consider and recommend to the Assembly a programme of implementation designed to enable the Palestinian people to exercise its inalienable rights, noted the increased international support for the attainment of a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the question of Palestine in accordance with internationally recognized principles and United Nations resolutions. The Committee believes that its programme of regional seminars, meetings of non-governmental organizations and other activities has played a valuable role in that regard and will continue to strive to achieve maximum effectiveness in the implementation of its mandate. It will continue and intensify its efforts to ensure that those meetings provide a useful forum for promoting a constructive debate and a concrete and action-oriented analysis of the most important issues on the question.

Moreover, the Committee considers that the programme of research, studies and publications called for under programme 5, Question of Palestine, is an essential resource for information, analysis and promotion of international action, and has called for its strengthening through the establishment of an adequately staffed and equipped computer-based information system. Establishment of the system began in 1993.

3.15 In paragraph 120 of the Final Document of its Tenth Special Session (resolution S-10/2 of 30 June 1978), the General Assembly welcomed the agreement reached during that session that the Committee on Disarmament would be convened at Geneva not later than January 1979. At the beginning of its 1984 session, the Committee on Disarmament agreed to change its designation to the Conference on Disarmament. The Conference is open to the four nuclear-weapon States and 35 other States, and is based at Geneva.

3.16 As indicated in paragraph 3.2, the Department of Political Affairs is headed by two Under-Secretaries-General with clearly defined geographical responsibilities and functions. The work of one part of the Department relates to the implementation of programme 1, with special responsibility for the Americas, Asia and Europe, and of programmes 2, 3 and 7. It comprises three elements. The first element relates to the provision of support to the Secretary-General in the exercise of his responsibilities for peacemaking and preventive diplomacy in the three regions, in accordance with Article 99 of the Charter or under mandates entrusted to him by the General Assembly and the Security Council. The second element is the provision of secretariat services to the General Assembly and the Security Council. The third is disarmament affairs. In March 1993, steps were taken to reorganize the Department of Political Affairs in order to strengthen its capacity in the fields of preventive diplomacy and peacemaking. These should be the primary focus of its work, since preventive diplomacy and peacemaking, defined in "An Agenda for Peace" (A/47/277-S/24111) as the use of peaceful means to bring hostile parties to agreement, are the most cost-effective ways of maintaining international peace and security and preventing the suffering and destruction that inevitably occur when disputes degenerate into armed conflict.

3. 17. The work of the other part of the Department covers distinct regional and functional responsibility for the peaceful settlement process in the Middle East, pacific settlement procedures in Africa, electoral assistance, elimination of apartheid, regional cooperation and self-determination, and the question of Palestine. The activities are in implementation of programme 1 as regards regional responsibility for the Middle East and Africa, and programmes 4, 5 and 6 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, as revised.

3.18 Member States have determined that periodic and genuine elections are a necessary and indispensable element of sustained efforts to protect the rights and interests of the governed and that, as a matter of practical experience, the right of everyone to take part in the government of his or her country is a crucial factor in the effective enjoyment by all of a wide range of other human rights and fundamental freedoms, embracing political, economic, social and cultural rights. They have affirmed the value of the electoral assistance that the United Nations has provided at the request of some member States, in the context of full respect for their sovereignty and have expressed their belief that the international community should continue to give serious consideration to ways in which the United Nations can respond to the requests of Member States as they seek to promote and strengthen their electoral institutions and procedures.

3.19 In its resolution 46/137 of 17 December 1991, the General Assembly endorsed the view of the Secretary-General that he should designate a senior official to act as a focal point, in order to ensure consistency in the handling of requests of Member States organizing elections, who would assist the Secretary-General to coordinate and consider requests for electoral verification and to channel requests for electoral assistance to the appropriate office or programme, to ensure careful consideration of requests for electoral verification, to build on experience gained to develop an institutional memory, to develop and maintain a roster of international experts who could provide technical assistance as well as assist in the verification of electoral processes and to maintain contact with regional and other intergovernmental organizations to ensure appropriate working arrangements with them ar[illegible] the avoidance of duplication of efforts. To that end, in the revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 a new subprogramme 4, Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections, of programme 4, was approved by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

3.20 To support the Secretary-General in carrying out activities under subprogramme 4 of programme 4, an Electoral Assistance Unit was established in April 1992. The activities under the subprogramme were initially focused on the

definition of basic criteria for responses to Member States' requests, the identification of external consultants who could be employed in the provision of electoral assistance, the training of staff and other preliminary activities. The activities have also included provision of responses to an ever increasing number of requests from Member States. During the biennium 1994-1995, it is anticipated that the initial organizational activities would be completed; on the other hand, it is expected that an increasing number of requests will be made by Member States. The Secretary-General proposes that additional resources be provided to *(a)* improve the quality of electoral assistance, which would require post-election assistance to electoral institutions to consolidate democratization processes; *(b)* to prepare guidelines on different aspects of electoral assistance; and *(c)* to develop networks with other organizations involved in electoral assistance.

3.21 The estimated percentage distribution of resources in 1994-1995 under section 3 of the budget would be as follows:

		Regular budget	*Extrabudgetary*
		(percentage)	
A.	Policy-making organs		
1.	Security Council	1.1	-
2.	Trusteeship Council	0.2	-
3.	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	-	-
4.	Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	0.8	-
5.	Special Committee against Apartheid and its subsidiary bodies	3.8	-
6.	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	0.2	-
7.	Conference on Disarmament	0.1	-
	Total A	**6.2**	**-**
B.	Department of Political Affairs 1		
1.	Executive direction and management	4.8	-
2.	Programme of work		
	(a) Preventive diplomacy and peacemaking	12.3	-
	(b) General Assembly and Security Council affairs	11.6	-
	(c) Disarmament	19.0	28.5
3.	Programme support	5.0	-
	Total B	**52.7**	**28.5**

		Regular budget (percentage)	*Extrabudgetary*
C.	Department of Political Affairs II		
	1. Executive direction and management	4.6	-
	2. Programme of work		
	(a) Subprogramme 1 of programme 1: Good offices, preventive diplomacy and peacemaking	1.5	-
	(b) Subprogramme 3 of programme 1: Research and the collection of information	1.5	-
	(c) Subprogramme 1 of programme 4: Special political questions (Office of the Coordinator for the Assistance and Reconstruction of Lebanon)	1.2	-
	(d) Subprogramme 1 of programme 4: Special political questions (other)	3.8	1.0
	(e) Subprogrammes 2 and 3 of programme 4: Regional, political and security cooperation; and Trusteeship and decolonization	5.2	-
	(f) Subprogramme 4 of programme 4: Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections	3.0	1.2
	(g) Programme 5: Question of Palestine	6.5	-
	(h) Programme 6: Elimination of apartheid	6.0	68.8
	3. Programme support services	2.2	-
	Total C	**35.5**	**71.0**
D.	Outer space affairs	5.6	0.5
	Total D	**5.6**	**0.5**
	Total A, B, C and D	**100.0**	**100.0**